

Lisle Farm

Herrick Archives Number 985

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

Note: This report covers not only Building 985, but also other buildings on the "Lisle Farm" and Lot 12 to the south, all referred to later as the "Lisle Tract."

1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees action.

1.2 Alternate names noted for Building 985:

Farm House No. 2

Residence No. 2

Fyffe Residence

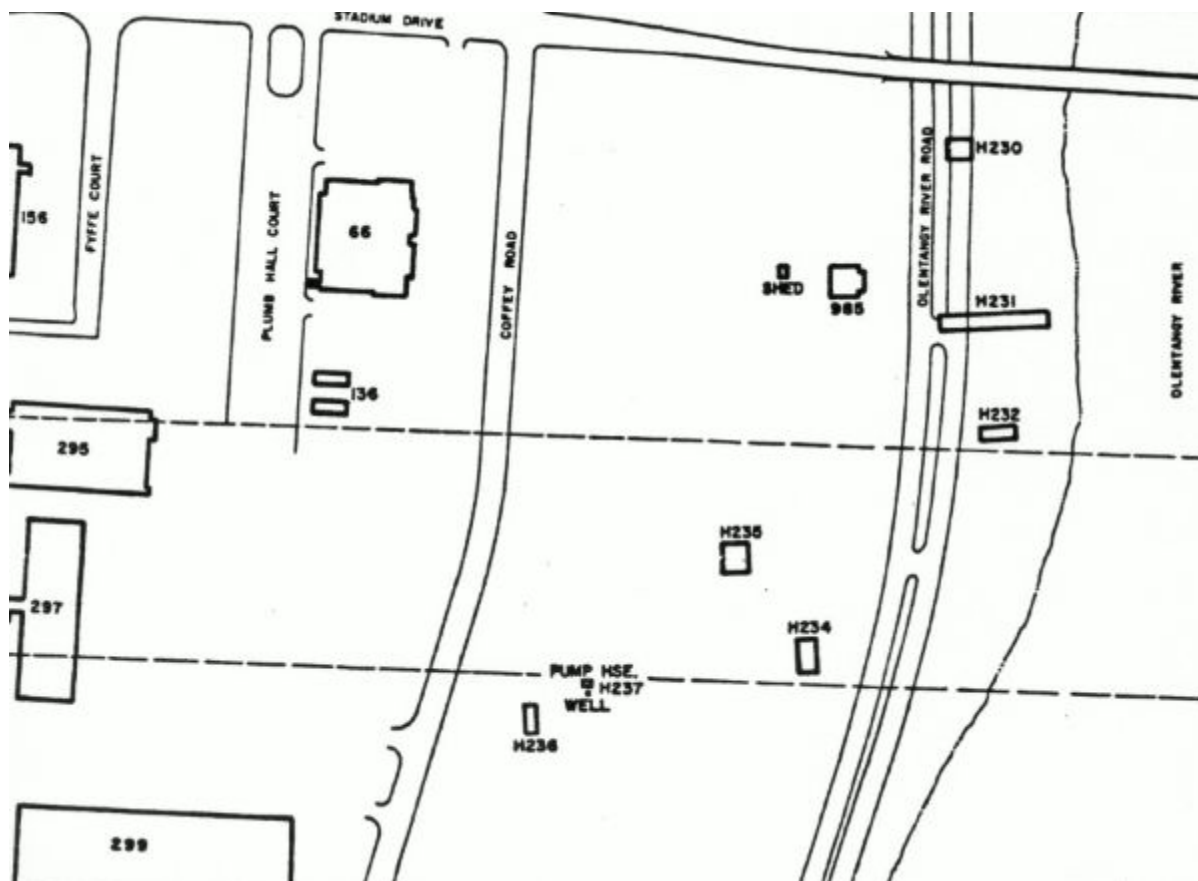
Jordan (Arthur W.) residence

See Addendum No. 4

2. Location

2.1 Located at 2001 Olentangy River Road (Building 985). See map below. No street numbers have been found for other buildings on the tract, but they would have been odd numbers above 1945 and below 2001.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheet 81 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.



For identification of other buildings shown, see Appendix A.

3. General Description

3.1 Building 985

Wood frame and brick exterior, with basement and two stories. Gross area 3,536 sq. ft.; net assignable area 3,280 sq. ft.

3.2 The shed at the rear of Building 985 is approximately 10' x 15'. Some older maps show a length of approximately 20'; the building may well have been shortened. There is clear evidence that the side walls have been altered.

3.3 Building H 234 was a two-story frame building with shingle roof. It was approximately 30' x 60' according to a free-hand sketch on the subdivision plot (Plat book 5, p. 231 in Recorder's Office).

3.4 Building H 235 was approximately 40' square according to several contemporary maps by the Department of Civil Engineering. Small extensions, perhaps 10-12' square, were on the north, south, and west sides, according to Photograph X 13920.

3.5 Building H 236 was a one-story frame house with shingle roof. It was approximately 14' x 40' according to maps by the Department of Civil Engineering.

3.6 H 237 was approximately 5' square according to old maps, but the concrete floor and remains of the outside wall still in existence indicate a building approximately 7' x 9'.

3.7 McCracken (4:17A) includes among farm buildings "Acquired by Purchase of Land" the "Lisle Tract Brick Residence, Barn and Milk House." Building 985 is the brick residence and Building H 235 is the barn.

The identity of the milk house has not been established. The shed back of Building 985 has a dirt floor and shows no evidence of ever being suitable for a milk house. Building H 237 (pump house) could have served as a milk house, but the concrete floor, which is still in place today, show no provision for placing milk cans in water for cooling. The barn (H 235) had low extensions on at least three sides, and it is possible that one of these served as a milk house.

B. ACQUISITION

1. Tract 11, which included Building 985 and the shed west of it was conveyed by warranty deed executed on June 7, 1904 to L. F. Kiesewetter (Deed book 390, p. 432). Grantors in this transaction were Mabel L. and William E. Meade and Mary A. Lisle.
2. The north half of Lot 12 of the J. O. Lisle subdivision (Buildings H 234 and 235) was conveyed to Louis F. Kiesewetter by warranty deed executed by Annie J. and John A. Alwood on June 29, 1904 (Deed book 389, p. 119).
3. Titles to Tract 11 and north half of Lot 12 at the J. O. Lisle subdivision were transferred by Louis F. Kiesewetter to the University by quitclaim deeds executed on April 6, 1906 (Deed book 428, p. 192 and 194).
4. The south half of Lot 12 of the J. O. Lisle subdivision (Building H 236 and 237) was acquired at sheriff's sale in August 1911 by Professor William J. Green of Wooster, and promptly conveyed to the University by warranty deed executed on August 8, 1911 by William J. and Martha A. Green (Deed book 514, p. 574).
5. The process by which Tract 11 (79.59 acres) and the north half of Lot 12 (14 acres) was acquired by the University is described by McCracken (4:65-6, 104-6).

The General Assembly in 1904 appropriated \$75,000 for buildings, livestock, and land for the College of Agriculture. Governor Myron T. Herrick, "after full discussion with members of the Board," vetoed this item in order to keep the total University budget within limits which the Governor deemed necessary.

Shortly after the veto, a group of five persons including Governor Herrick, President W. O. Thompson, and three members of the Board of Trustees borrowed money from a Columbus bank to purchase the land. Title was placed in the name of Louis F. Kiesewetter, Treasurer of the University, to be held in trust until the University could purchase the land.

The General Assembly in 1906 appropriated \$5,000 for purchase of land and improvements. Title to the two tracts was thereupon transferred to the University by quitclaim deeds.

C. DEMOLITION

1. The shed behind Building 985 may or may not be the one on the property at the time of acquisition. If the original one was demolished, no record of such demolition has been noted. The present building has the long axis N-S; Photograph X 18110 (c 1920) shows an E-W axis. The building could have been turned or replaced.

See Addendum No. 1

2. Building 234 appears only on the subdivision plot recorded in September 1897 and not on 1907 or later maps prepared by the University. However, an insurance policy issued by the Home Insurance Company of the City of New York on August 15, 1903 lists the following improvements on all of Lot 12:

- Two-story shingle roof frame dwelling house-\$1,000 coverage.
- One-story shingle roof frame dwelling house-\$100 coverage.
- Barns and sheds-\$500 coverage.

This suggests that Building 234, a two-story building, was still standing in 1902, and possibly was demolished by 1907

See Addenda Nos. 3, 5

3. Building H 235

This building appears on a map of the Lisle Tract revised in April 1926, but does not appear on a 1929 aerial photograph (X 1008).

4. Building H 236

This house appears on an April 1926 revision of a map of the Lisle Tract, on the 1929 aerial photograph (X 1008), and on a 1930 picture (X 1010). Since Cabinet on April 9, 1928 approved a new roof on this building it is likely that it remained in use beyond 1929. It apparently is in a 1932 aerial photograph by Curtis Le May (X 12087) but this is not too clear. The house is clearly missing on an aerial photograph (BCF 3-70) taken June 15, 1938.

D. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

- X 7673 - Building 985
- X 7674 - Building 985
- X 13920 - barn (H 235) and north end of single story house (H 236)
- X 18110 - Building 985 and shed, Buildings H 235, 236, and 237

John H. Herrick

April 23, 1975

ADDENDUM NO. 1

The shed behind Building 985 was demolished early in 1976. The invoice for the demolition in the files of the Property Management Division is dated March 9, 1976.

John H. Herrick

November 5, 1976

ADDENDUM NO. 2

The President reported to the Board of Trustees on November 11, 1916 that the Emergency Board had allowed the University \$880 for "temporary service sheds for swine." McCracken (3:90) stated that these facilities were across the river.

Cabinet on October 10, 1916 had already directed the University Architect to prepare plans for a lean-to to be built against the old barn across the river for hog shelter, at a cost not to exceed \$850.

Beginning in the report for the year ending June 30, 1917, the Business Office reports (B) include a "hog barn" at \$850, and continued this listing through 1924-25. Incidentally, these listings give 1898 as the date of the building. This is clearly an error, and perhaps is the date of the old "piggery" replaced by Building "M" in the H 105 group. See Item 9 in Part C of the H 105 report.

The old barn to which the 1916 lean-to was attached presumably was Building H 235.

John H. Herrick

May 10, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 3

The Building Committee of the Board of Trustees at its meeting on August 20, 1906 agreed to vacate and sell as soon as possible "the frame house west of the Olentangy River..." Buildings H 234 and H 236 are the only houses known to exist west of the river in 1906. Since H 236 was still standing in 1930 or later (see C4 above), the Building Committee action on August 20, 1906 apparently referred to H 234.

John H. Herrick

June 27, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 4

The house was leased to the Alpha Psi fraternity as of June 15, 1979.

John H. Herrick

September 11, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 5

Map 191-10 was prepared in 1912 and revised in June 1915. This map shows the outline of Building H 234 erased. Thus, it would appear that H 234 was removed between 1912 and June 1915.

John H. Herrick

December 15, 1980